



**OFFICE OF THE MAYOR  
550 MAIN STREET  
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT**

**EDDIE A. PEREZ**  
Mayor

**Telephone: (860) 543-8500  
Fax: (860) 722-6606**

**-----MEDIA ADVISORY-----**

**MAYOR PEREZ SAYS  
“EDUCATION EQUALS EMPOWERMENT!”  
WANTS HARTFORD STUDENTS  
READY FOR FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL!**

**WHEN: Tuesday, September 6, 2005 7:50 a.m.**

**WHERE: Dr. James H. Naylor School  
639 Franklin Avenue, South End of Hartford**

**Hartford Mayor Eddie Perez begins the day by welcoming students to the \$31 million, newly renovated Naylor School. Mayor Perez says the first day of school sets the tone for the rest of a child’s school year. That’s why he and Superintendent Robert Henry will join students for breakfast and opening day festivities.**

**Mayor Perez will stress the importance of a four-year college degree when he meets with students.**

**Mayor Perez says, “We want our youngsters alert and ready to learn. Students and families also need to realize how important it is to attend the first day. It establishes the goal of striving for excellence. The Hartford Public School System is aiming to improve its first day attendance rate each and every year.”**

**(More)**

**Two years ago, Hartford students had an almost 82% first day attendance rate. Last year, that number climbed to almost 84%. The Mayor says the goal must be 100%.**

**The Mayor's schedule at Naylor is as follows:**

- 7:50 a.m. Greet students in brand new cafeteria**
- 8:05 a.m. Walk media and supporters of Hartford Public Schools to view new foyer--- another result of the City's \$800 million school construction project over 10 years**
- 8:15 a.m. Speak to students and parents outside as part of first day welcoming activities**
- 8:30 a.m. Speak to preschoolers about their exciting educational journey**
- 9:00 a.m. Speak to eighth graders about early college awareness**

**Members of the media are asked to park on Cromwell Street between Franklin Avenue and the indentation in the road for buses. Parking in this area is on a first come first served basis.**

**Reminder to members of media: Because parental permission slips concerning photography are signed during the first week of school, please refrain from taking identifiable pictures of students unless a parent or guardian agrees. Thanks in advance for your cooperation.**

**Any questions concerning the Mayor's role, please contact Sarah Barr, Director of Communications, at (860) 522-4888 x6217.**